

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Warren Water District Receives Visit and Federal Funds** **From Congressman Neal and Friends**

**Warren, MA** – Congressman Richard Neal, USDA Rural Development State Director David Tuttle, and State Senator Stephen Brewer arrived at the site of Warren’s new water storage tank today with a hefty federal check made out to the town’s water district. A \$1,425,000 loan and \$405,000 grant was awarded to the Warren Water District in order to complete work on their water system improvement project.

The funds presented to the district this morning will be used to replace old water pipes throughout the system thereby eliminating potential health risks.

USDA Rural Development funding for Warren’s water improvements began in early 2002 when the Warren Water District was provided with over \$226,000 in loans and grants to start the rehabilitation project. With the enactment of the 2002 Farm Bill later that year which provided USDA Rural Development with \$360 million nationally to fund water and wastewater projects, the water district received an additional \$1,659,000 in loans and grants for the construction of its new water tank. In 2004, the Warren Water District received an additional \$243,000 in loans and grants from USDA Rural Development in order to “loop” the district’s water mains.

Today’s announcement brings USDA Rural Development’s total funding of Warren’s water improvement project to \$3,958,000.

“The tank project went so wonderfully and is a great improvement for the Warren Water District,” said District Board members Hazel McComb, Clifford G. Fountain, and Francis H. Beaudry, Jr. “Our District is very happy to have a new tank, and we extend our sincere appreciation for the low interest loan and grant funding for the upcoming looping project and transite pipe replacement project. This has given us the opportunity to provide Warren’s citizens with a high quality of drinking water.”

“This federal assistance will greatly improve the Town of Warren’s water system. It is a significant investment in the town’s infrastructure and future. I am pleased to join Director Tuttle today in making this important announcement,” said Congressman Richard E. Neal.

“I am pleased the Town of Warren is receiving such generous funding to provide its residents with improved water services,” said Senator Brewer. “This is the culmination of many efforts and I am pleased the Town of Warren will now benefit from a much needed and well deserved rehabilitation of its water system.”

“This grant is well-deserved,” said Representative Todd Smola in a statement about today’s event. “I’m grateful for the opportunity to acknowledge and praise the Warren Water District and town officials for their long-range

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and proactive commitment to safeguard the community's drinking water.”

“Our job at USDA Rural Development is to help families, communities and businesses build the basic community infrastructure they need to thrive” said USDA Rural Development State Director, David Tuttle. “A clean, reliable water system for the folks of Warren not only improves the quality of life here but helps to increase economic opportunities as well.”

USDA Rural Development invested over \$50 million in Massachusetts in Fiscal Year 2004 to provide equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure.

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